



TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
505 SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY
WETHERSFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06109
(860) 721-2837 FAX (860) 721-2843

APPLICATION GUIDANCE*

**For
Installation of Fences**

The Town of Wethersfield permits the installation of fences in residential zones**. The provisions of Section 7.2. of the zoning regulations establish the requirements for fences. The Town of Wethersfield has created this guide in an effort to summarize the requirements of these regulations for individuals interested in installing a fence on their property.

*This guide is intended for general guidance only, and does not replace the full zoning regulation and code requirements. Any questions should be directed towards the Town of Wethersfield Building Department, which can be reached at (860)-721-2840.

**Please Note: Anyone wishing to install a fence in the Historic District must gain approval from the Historic District Commission prior to installation of any fence. Questions in this regard can be directed to the Historic District Commission Coordinator at (860)-721-2836.

Fences Allowed Without a Building Permit¹

Fences are permitted without a building permit in residential zones that are not part of the Historic District, provided that:

- ☐ The fence shall not exceed four (4) feet in height between the street line and the building line and not exceed six (6) feet behind the building line.
- ☐ The fence shall, when viewed at right angles, not obstruct visibility by more than fifty percent (50%).
- ☐ No component, other than those required for support, shall be greater than six (6) inches in width and diameter.
- ☐ Each component shall be distributed so as to be separated by a dimension at least equal to its own width, and provide uniformity of design and visibility throughout the length and height of the fence.

Additionally, a retaining wall or freestanding wall or fence or other structure not complying with the above provisions may be exempt from the front yard requirement for the zone in which it is located if approved by the Zoning Enforcement Officer and Town Engineer.

¹ All fences being installed in the Historic District require a Certificate of Appropriateness issued by the Historic District Commission.

Fencing Suggestions

The following are not required by the Town of Wethersfield, but are rather a list of suggestions that may help to prevent any future difficulties or hardships.

- ☐ Fences are ideally not directly on a property line, so ownership and responsibility is easily determined.
- ☐ Fences should ideally not cross over any easements, so as to prevent the need for removing fence sections for any reason in the future.
- ☐ Fences should not have barbed wire or electric current, so as to prevent any lawsuit liability.
- ☐ Fences should have the finished side facing outwards.